

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a returnable package (~~11~~) having at least one deposit mark (~~12~~), in which a recyclable object on which a deposit is to be charged is provided with at least one first, irremovable security feature (~~14~~) in which at least one further irremovable security feature (~~16~~) is applied to the object on which a deposit is to be charged and which is provided with at least one first security feature (~~14~~), before, during and/or after the introduction of goods into the object on which a deposit is to be charged, the issue of said security feature being predefined by a control system that is not accessible to the manufacturer of the returnable package (~~11~~), and in which the deposit value of the deposit mark (~~12~~) is generated by means of the combination of the at least one first and further security feature (~~14, 16~~).
2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, by means of the at least one first and further security feature (~~14, 16~~), at least one item of information for detecting the authenticity of the returnable package (~~11~~) for a material circulation system is applied.

3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that, by means of the at least one first and further security feature ~~(14, 16)~~, at least one item of information for detecting the amount of the deposit is applied.
4. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as an open or visually detectable feature.
5. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the open security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as a bar code, imprint of a deposit value, of a deposit logo or information that can be detected by touch.
6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 3, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as a feature that can be read with aids.
7. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 3, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as a machine-readable feature.
8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is at least partly transparent, translucent, phosphorescent, fluorescent, luminescent, UV-emitting and/or IR-emitting.

9. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ comprises substances in the form of Stokes pigments and/or anti-Stokes pigments.
10. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ which fluorescent security pigments with a rapid decay constant is applied.
11. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one deposit mark ~~(12)~~ is generated from at least one item of open information and/or an item of information that can at least be read with aids and/or by machine.
12. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one first security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is issued as a function of the at least one further security feature ~~(16, 14)~~ and vice versa.
13. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one security feature ~~(14)~~ and the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ are formed with at least partly coincident, complementary and/or superimposing items of information.

14. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is applied directly on or introduced directly in the object on which a deposit is to be charged.
15. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied by means of direct printing on at least one part of the object on which a deposit is to be charged.
16. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 13, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is applied indirectly to the object on which a deposit is to be charged.
17. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that the at least one first security feature ~~(14)~~ is applied on labels, closures of containers, can lids, decorative prints or crown corks.
18. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied in an inline process of the returnable package ~~(11)~~.
19. (Currently amended) A method of implementing a returnable package system, a returnable package ~~(11)~~ being produced by a method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1

~~to 18~~, characterized in that the at least one security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied by the marking unit ~~(23)~~.

20. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied by a marking unit ~~(23)~~ which receives from a control unit ~~(22)~~ a clock pulse which is derived from the conveying speed of the returnable package ~~(11)~~.
21. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~either of claims~~ claim 19 ~~and 20~~, characterized in that each issue of a further security feature ~~(16)~~ is passed on to a data-processing system ~~(24)~~ and at least partly stored.
22. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 21~~, characterized in that a reader ~~(26)~~ is used to interrogate the security features ~~(14, 16)~~.
23. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 22~~, characterized in that a reader ~~(26)~~ is connected after a marking unit ~~(23)~~ in the conveying direction ~~(20)~~ of the object on which a deposit is to be charged, and in that, by means of the reader ~~(26)~~, the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ applied is registered and passed on to a data-processing system ~~(24)~~.
24. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,

characterized in that at least the marking unit (23) for applying the at least one further security feature (16) and the reader (26) are positioned at a short distance from each other.

25. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that the distance between the marking unit (23) and the reader (26), in particular in a filling plant, is dimensioned to be less than three meters.
26. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 25, characterized in that the at least one further security feature (16) is applied without contact to the object on which a deposit is to be charged.
27. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 26, characterized in that the at least one further security feature (16) is applied by the marking unit (23) by means of a marking medium having security pigments.
28. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 27, characterized in that the number, the volume and/or the mass of the security features (16) applied is stored in a memory element arranged in a container accommodating the marking medium.
29. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 27,

characterized in that the number, the volume and/or the mass of the security features (16) applied is stored in a data-processing system (24).

30. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 29, characterized in that a code is assigned to the container accommodating the marking medium for forming the at least one further security feature (16).
31. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in one of claims ~~29~~ 19 to 30, characterized in that, when the empty containers are replaced by full containers, data from the data-processing system (24) is transmitted from a filler (36) to a clearing authority (37).
32. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 30, characterized in that, when the empty containers are replaced by full containers, data from the data-processing system (24) is transmitted to a security provider (38).
33. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 30, characterized in that the data in the memory element of the containers returned to the security provider (38) is read and checked by the security provider (38).

34. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 to 30, characterized in that a requirement for full containers for the marking medium from the filler ~~(36)~~ and/or the requested number of full containers for the marking medium from the filler ~~(36)~~ are registered and stored by a security provider ~~(38)~~.
35. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 28 to 34, characterized in that at least the data transmitted directly by the filler ~~(36)~~ and at least the data passed on by the filler ~~(36)~~ to a clearing authority ~~(37)~~ are checked by a security provider ~~(38)~~ by means of a plausibility check.
36. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 35, characterized in that the plausibility check is carried out by an EDP-based management system ~~(44)~~.
37. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~either of claims~~ claim 35 and 36, characterized in that, during the plausibility check, the number of further security features ~~(46)~~ issued and/or the volume and/or mass of the marking medium produced and filled into containers, the production of the containers and/or the identification and/or the number of control pulses from a control unit ~~(22)~~ for driving the marking unit ~~(23)~~ are checked.
38. (Currently amended) A returnable package having at least one deposit mark ~~(12)~~ which is produced by a method in which a recyclable object on which a deposit is to be charged is



provided with at least one first, irremovable security feature (14), in which at least one further irremovable security feature (16) is applied to the object on which a deposit is to be charged and which is provided with at least one first security feature (14), before, during and/or after the introduction of goods into the object on which a deposit is to be charged, the issue of said security feature being predefined by a control system that is not accessible to the manufacturer of the returnable package (11), and in which the deposit value of the deposit mark (12) is generated by means of the combination of the at least one first and further security feature (14, 16).